



*Office of the United States Attorney
Amul R. Thapar
Eastern District of Kentucky*

**Lexington Man Indicted for Charges of Communicating via the Internet
to Attempt to Engage in Sexual Activity with a 15-year-old Boy**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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*For information contact Courtney Yopp Norris
(859) 233-2661 ext. 104*

LONDON, Ky. — Douglas William Steele, 54, of Lexington, Ky. was indicted today for charges of using the internet to communicate with an individual under 17 years of age, in an attempt to engage in sexual activity.

The indictment alleges that from October of 2006, until January of 2007, Steele attempted to persuade an individual over the internet, who he believed to be a 15-year-old male, to engage in sexual activity.

If convicted, he faces a minimum of 10 years and up to life in prison, a maximum fine of \$250,000 and supervised release for up to life.

The investigation preceding the indictment was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Kentucky State Police, Electronic Crime Section. The indictment was presented to the grand jury by Assistant United States Attorney Erin J. May.

Amul R. Thapar, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Kentucky, Tracy A. Reinhold, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, and John (Jack) Adams, Commissioner, Kentucky State Police, jointly made the announcement today after a federal grand jury in London, Ky., returned the indictment.

Steele's appearance before the United States District Court has not yet been set by the court in London, Ky.

The indictment of a person by a grand jury is an accusation only, that person is presumed innocent unless proven guilty.

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